AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (previously presented): An immunomodulatory polynucleotide/microcarrier (IMP/MC) complex, comprising:

a polynucleotide covalently linked to the surface of a biodegradable microcarrier (MC), wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-CG-3', wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 nucleotides in length and wherein said MC is less than 10 μm in size.

Claims 2-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said microcarrier is a liquid phase microcarrier.

Claim 5 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said microcarrier is a solid phase microcarrier.

Claim 6 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said microcarrier is from 25 nm to 5 μm in size.

Claim 7 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 6, wherein said microcarrier is from 1.0 μm to 2.0 μm in size.

Claim 8 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 7, wherein said microcarrier is 1.4 μm in size.

Claim 9 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said microcarrier is cationic.

Claim 10 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said complex is antigen-free.

Claim 11 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 12 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-TCG$X_1X_2X_3X_4$-3' or the sequence 5'-X_1TCG$X_2X_3X_4$-3', wherein X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 are nucleotides.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The IMP/MC complex of claim 12, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-TCGTCGX_4-3'.

Claim 14 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 12, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-TCGTCGA-3', 5'-TCGAAAA-3', 5'-TCGCCCC-3', 5'-TCGGGGG-3' and 5'-TCGTTTT-3'.

Claim 15 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3'.

Claim 16 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3'.

Claim 17 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 11, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 18 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide further comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 19 (original): The IMP/MC complex of any of claims 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 18, wherein said polynucleotide is 7 nucleotides in length.

Claim 20 (original): The IMP/MC complex of any of claims 1, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 18, wherein said complex further comprises an antigen.

Claim 21 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 20, wherein said antigen is an allergen.

Claim 22 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification.

Claim 23 (original): The IMP/MC complex of claim 22, wherein said phosphate backbone modification is a phosphorothioate.

Claims 24-47 (canceled).

Claim 48 (previously presented): A kit, comprising:

an immunomodulatory polynucleotide/microcarrier (IMP/MC) complex, said complex comprising a polynucleotide covalently linked the surface of to a biodegradable microcarrier (MC), wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-CG-3', wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 nucleotides in length and wherein said MC is less than 10 μm in size; and

instructions for use of the IMP/MC complex in immunomodulation of an individual.

Claims 49-50 (canceled).

Claim 51 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said microcarrier is a liquid phase microcarrier.

Claim 52 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said microcarrier is a solid phase microcarrier.

Claim 53 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said microcarrier is from 25 nm to 5 μm in size.

Claim 54 (original): The kit of claim 53, wherein said microcarrier is from 1.0 μm to 2.0 μm in size.

Claim 55 (original): The kit of claim 54, wherein said microcarrier is 1.4 μm in size.

Claim 56 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said microcarrier is cationic.

Claim 57 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said complex is antigen-free.

Claim 58 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 59 (original): The kit of claim 58, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-TCGX1X2X3X4-3' or the sequence 5'-X1TCGX2X3X4-3', wherein X1, X2, X3, X4 are nucleotides.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The kit of claim 59, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-TCGTCGX$_4$-3'.

Claim 61 (original): The kit of claim 59, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-TCGTCGA-3', 5'-TCGAAAA-3', 5'-TCGCCCC-3', 5'-TCGGGGG-3' and 5'-TCGTTTT-3'.

Claim 62 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3'.

Claim 63 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3'.

Claim 64 (original): The kit of claim 58, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the sequence SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 65 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said polynucleotide further comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 66 (original): The kit of any of claims 48, 58, 59, 60, 61 or 65, wherein said kit further comprises an antigen.

Claim 67 (original): The kit of claim 66, wherein said antigen is an allergen.

Claim 68 (original): The kit of claim 48, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification.

Claim 69 (original): The kit of claim 68, wherein said phosphate backbone modification is a phosphorothioate.

Claim 70 (previously presented): A kit, comprising:

an immunomodulatory polynucleotide/microcarrier (IMP/MC) complex, said complex comprising a polynucleotide covalently linked to the surface of a biodegradable microcarrier (MC), wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-CG-3' and wherein said polynucleotide is 7 nucleotides in length; and

instructions for use of the IMP/MC complex in immunomodulation of an individual.

Claim 71 (original): The kit of claim 70, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 72 (original): The kit of claim 71, wherein said polynucleotide consists of the sequence 5'-TCG$X_1X_2X_3X_4$-3' or the sequence 5'-X_1TCG$X_2X_3X_4$-3', wherein X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4 are nucleotides.

Claim 73 (previously presented): The kit of claim 72, wherein said polynucleotide consists of the sequence 5'-TCGTCGX_4-3'.

Claim 74 (original): The kit of claim 72, wherein said polynucleotide consists of a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-TCGTCGA-3', 5'-TCGAAAA-3', 5'-TCGCCCC-3', 5'-TCGGGGG-3' and 5'-TCGTTTT-3'.

Claim 75 (original): The kit of claim 70, wherein said polynucleotide further comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

Claim 76 (original): The kit of claim 70, wherein said complex is antigen-free.

Claim 77 (original): The kit of claim 70, further comprising an antigen.

Claim 78 (original): The kit of claim 77, wherein said antigen is an allergen.

Claim 79 (original): The kit of claim 70, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification.

Claim 80 (original): The kit of claim 79, wherein said phosphate backbone modification is a phosphorothioate.

Claim 81 (original): A composition comprising an IMP/MC complex of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Claim 82 (original): A composition according to claim 81, wherein the composition is antigen-free.

Claim 83 (original): A composition according to claim 81, wherein the composition further comprises an antigen.

Claim 84 (original): A composition according to claim 83, wherein the antigen is an allergen.